

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01
TRSE-00 HA-05 ACDA-12 COME-00 EB-08 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 (ISO) W
-----121750 061033Z /17

O P 060900Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9179
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 3109

PRETORIA ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV RH US UK
SUBJ: RHODESIA: NKOMO CLAIMS ZAPU SHOT DOWN RHODESIAN PLANE
AND DENIES IT KILLED SURVIVORS

1. NKOMO TOLD THE PRESS SEPTEMBER 5 THAT ZAPU FORCES HAD SHOT DOWN THE AIR RHODESIA VISCOUNT FLYING TO KARIBA. THIS WAS DONE BECAUSE VISCOUNTS FLYING THE KARIBA ROUTE, WHILE OSTENSIBLY CARRYING CIVILIANS, "WERE BEING USED FOR FERRYING TROOPS AND MILITARY SUPPLIES." ZAPU IS NOT INTERESTED IN KILLING CIVILIANS, BUT WHEN PLANES ARE USED OVER A WAR ZONE "HOW CAN PEOPLE ON THE GROUND DISTINGUISH AIRPLANES ON CIVILIAN OR MILITARY MISSIONS?" NKOMO DENIED THAT SURVIVORS HAD BEEN KILLED BY FREEDOM FIGHTERS. IN ADVANCING DENIAL, HE USED CONVOLUTED ARGUMENTATION. IF FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAD TAKEN A HAND IN THE
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KILLINGS, NONE COULD HAVE ESCAPED. SINCE SOME ESCAPED, FREEDOM FIGHTERS WERE NOT INVOLVED. NKOMO NOTED THAT DEATHS OF THOSE IN THE VISCOUNT CRASH HAS TRIGGERED A MASSIVE OUTCRY IN THE WEST. HE CONTRASTED THIS WITH THE SILENCE IN THE WEST OVER THE DAILY KILLING OF THIRTY BLACK RHODESIANS BY RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES.

2. COMMENT: NKOMO'S DENIAL THAT ZAPU DID NOT SHOOT SURVIVORS IS UNCONVINCINGLY PUT. IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE SMITH-NKOMO MEETING AND THE BLOW UP AT THE FRONTLINE SUMMIT THIS WEEKEND, THIS UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT COULD TRIGGER RETALIATION FROM RHODESIA. THIS IS TRUE ESPECIALLY SINCE NKOMO IS TAKING CREDIT FOR HIS FORCES SHOOTING DOWN THE VISCOUNT.
CLINGERMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT, DEATHS, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LUSAKA03109
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780362-0683
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780999/aaaaddra.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0a7ffa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1533409
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: NKOMO CLAIMS ZAPU SHOT DOWN RHODESIAN PLANE AND DENIES IT KILLED SURVIVORS
TAGS: PDEV, EAIR, RH, US, UK, ZAPU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0a7ffa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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